

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

EXAMINING GROUP 2664

PATENT

Application # 09/639,935

Attorney Docket # 1999-0514 (1014-165)

REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully thanked for the thoughtful consideration provided to this application. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner is also thanked for determining each of claims 16-22, 28, and 30-33 allowable.

Claim 29 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer for potential pursuit in a future application.

Claims 19 was amended solely for purposes of addressing an informality, and thus, not for reasons related to patentability.

Claims 16-22, 28, and 30-33 are now pending in this application. Each of claims 16, 28, and 30 are in independent form.

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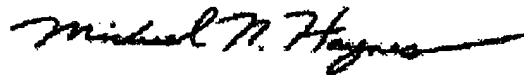
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application as amended is in clear condition for allowance. Reconsideration, withdrawal of all grounds of rejection, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-2504. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 434-972-9988 to discuss any matter regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Haynes PLC



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Michael N. Haynes
Registration No. 40,014

1341 Huntersfield Close
Keswick, VA 22947
Telephone: 434-972-9988
Facsimile: 815-550-8850